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PATENT APPLICATION

Docket Number: 008312-0304586 Client Reference: T4AOA-03S0796-1

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

HIDEKI TAKAHASHI, et al. Group Art Unit: 2655

Application No.: 10/611,347 Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: July 2, 2003 Confirmation No.: 2672

For: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, INFORMATION RECORDING

APPARATUS, AND INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed 'before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached Japanese Communication (Office Action) issued August 17, 2004, i.e., not more than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the Japanese Communication and the English Abstracts are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached references.

Respectfully submitted

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